

AGENDA



Recommendation for Council Action

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|--|--|---------|-------------|----------------------|-----|
| Austin City Council | | Item ID | 51944 | Agenda Number | 78. |
| Meeting Date: | 11/19/2015 | | Department: | Parks and Recreation | |
| Subject | | | | | |
| Approve an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Fee Schedule (Ordinance No. 20150908-003) to allow all City residents 80 years or older to use City swimming pools for free. | | | | | |
| Amount and Source of Funding | | | | | |
| The fiscal note is attached. | | | | | |
| Fiscal Note | | | | | |
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| Purchasing Language: | | | | | |
| Prior Council Action: | Swim fees approved as part of 2015 -2016 operating budget. Between 1960 and the present, City Council approved approximately 34 “Lifetime” passes for the use of Barton Springs Pool with the most recent being awarded to Mr. and Mrs. Cooksey. | | | | |
| For More Information: | Kimberly McNeeley (512) 974-6722 | | | | |
| Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action: | October 28, 2015 – Approved by the Open Space, Environment and Sustainability Council Committee on a vote of 2-1 with Council Member Zimmerman against and Council Member Garza absent. September 29, 2015 – Approved by the Parks and Recreation Board on a vote of 10-1 with Board Member Wimberly against. | | | | |
| MBE / WBE: | | | | | |
| Related Items: | | | | | |

Additional Backup Information

The City has established precedent in this area by recognizing citizens 80 years old or older who are devotees of Barton Springs Pool by granting them free lifetime swimming privileges at the pool. Approximately thirty-four lifetime swim passes have been awarded in the last 55 years. Council approval required because a fee waiver is necessary to award the pass.

If approved, this new ordinance would allow free admission to Barton Springs, Deep Eddy, Bartholomew Pool, Big Stacy Pool, Springwoods Pool and the following seasonal municipal pools, Mabel Davis, Garrison, Walnut Creek Park, and Beverly S. Sheffield Northwest Swimming Pools.

The current swimming pool admission fee is \$1.00 for senior citizens age 65. The current point of sale system does not specify ages associated with the \$1.00 fee nor does it differentiate the ages of senior citizens who purchase an admission fee. A pass good for 40 swims costs \$34 for senior citizens 65 years or older. The 40 swims may be taken at any time, at the purchaser's discretion. The multi-swim pass does not have an expiration date, nor does it cover a specific timeframe; this makes it difficult to determine the exact fiscal impact of this action.

For year round facilities (Barton Springs, Deep Eddy, Little Stacy, Bartholomew and Springwoods Pool) the annual charging season begins the Saturday prior to Austin Independent School District's Spring Break and ends October 31st. The annual charging season for seasonal municipal pools (Mabel Davis, Garrison, Walnut Creek Park, and Beverly S. Sheffield Northwest Swimming Pools) begins with the first day Austin Independent School District breaks for summer vacation and ends with season closure sometime in the month of September.

The revenue loss associated with a Lifetime Swim Pass for Austin Residents 80 years of age and older to both year round and seasonal municipal swimming pools is believed to be negligible with no negative consequences to the Parks and Recreation Department.